THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 166. Tuesday, May 28, 1822. Price 1d.

COVENT GARDEN.

Julius Cæsar, last night, was attended by a crowded Pit; but the boxes were rather thinly occupied. The gallery company was pretty numerous. The excellent manner in which this Tragedy is represented in its chief parts, was as amply recognised from all quarters of the house as on the previous occasions of its performance. We get quite proud of a British audience when we find it enduring the effects of a squeeze on the verge of summer, for the sake of seeing a good play: and we swell with patriotic delight to see the exertions of the groundlings to force a way for the free use of their hands to give proofs of their taste for Shakspeare's beauties, and for admirable acting. This is something better for foreigners to behold, than to see *Mr. and Mrs. Bull's* vehement eagerness to get a peep at Cleopatra's Galley borne over a canvass ocean, or to gaze at the *seasons* in person, trundled over the Stage in shew-cars. We mean no offence to Mr Farley, whose talent for Spectacle arrangements is so great, when we declare we believe him to be the greatest thorn in the side of genius that ever took root in Covent Garden If he had not existed, it may be pretty certainly guessed that the Managers must, throughout a large portion of the season, have depended on Plays that possessed sufficient merit in the dialogue and action to induce people of sense to resort to the Theatre.

The change of management has in some measure lessened the influence of mere *Shew*; and Mr. Farley is not quite so much in demand. At

DRURY LANE.

although not possessed of such talent as at Covent Garden, in the getting up of tales of enchantment, and emblematical pictures and machinery, yet they contrived to manage the procession of the Coronation very well: But here no invention was required, as the

manner of doing the thing was furnished by the Herald's college. However, when Drury was thrown on its own resources, it failed in its spectacle pieces; and was compelled to rely on mere Tragedy, and Comedy, and Farce. We are told that their weakness at this Theatre in the *Shew department*, is about to be remedied by a junction with that great producer of things to please the eye, and dumb-found the senses, Mr. GLOSSOP. If so, we shall expect that the next season of Drury Lane will prove as unsuccessful as the present one, and with this difference, that it will better deserve neglect than it has latterly. If it is to become a great *Minor* Theatre, it shall have our decided opposition, as it will that of every friend of the Stage. Were the conductors of our two national Theatres to unite in *principle*, and agree that they would, as to *first pieces*, wholly rely on the regular Drama, for, at least, three-fourths of a season, the character of the British Stage would not be so sadly tarnished as it has been; and there would be some probability of distinguished Dramatists appearing to add to its lustre.

Mr. KEAN acted *Richard the Third*, yesterday evening, for the last time this season. It is throughout a distinguished piece of acting, and met with all its usual approbation.

MR. MACREADY's BENEFIT TO-NIGHT.

Every one who has seen Mr. MACREADY in his principal characters, must be deeply impressed with his eminent talents. His appearance, therefore, this evening, in the character of *Othello*, will, independent of the natural inclination of the British public to foster histrionic genius, lead many to witness his effort, and Mr. YOUNG's as *Iago*, as well as to gratify their curiosity as to Mr. M's. performance of *Count Almaviva*, in the Entertainment.

No's. 68, 76, and 97, of this Work are re-printed, and are ready for delivery.

The Title and Index of the Fourth *Volume are also ready.*

Printed by E. THOMAS, Denmark Court, Exeter 'Change.
Published by C. HARRIS, 25, Bow Street, by whom orders and communications are received; and sold by CHAPPELL and Son, Royal Exchange

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening will be performed the Opera of

Abroad & at Home.

Sir Simon Flourish, Mr. WATKINSON
Young Flourish, Mr. HARLEY,
Old Testy, Mr. MUNDEN,
Young Testy, Mr. BARNARD,
Captain O'Niel, Mr. FITZWILLIAM,
Snare, Mr. BROMLEY,
Dicky, Mr. KNIGHT, Bluff, Mr. G. SMITH,
Harcourt, Mr. BRAHAM,
Bailiffs, Messrs. Howard, Gibbon, Wilmott,
Follower, Mr. Read, William, Mr. Turnour.
Lady Flourish, Mrs. HARLOWE,
Kitty, Miss COPELAND,
Miss Hartley, Miss POVEY.

After which the Farce of

Monsieur Tonson.

The Principal Characters by
Mr. COOPER,
Mr. BARNARD, Mr. FOOTE, Mr. GATTIE,
Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS,
Mr. MEREDITH, Mr. VINING, Mr. SMITH,
Mr. WEBSTER, Mr. HOWELL,
Mr. TURNOUR. Mrs. KNIGHT,
Miss SMITHSON, and Mrs. BLAND,
WITH A SONG.

To-morrow, The HEART of MID LOTHIAN. A CONCERT. And the REVIEW. For the Benefit of Mr. FITZWILLIAM.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

MR. MACREADY's NIGHT.

This Evening will be performed the Tragedy of

OTHELLO.

The Duke of Venice, Mr. CHAPMAN,
Brabantio, Mr. EGERTON,
Gratiano, Mr. ATKINS, Lodovico, Mr. COMER,
Othello, Mr. MACREADY,
Montanio, Mr. CLAREMONT, Cassio, Mr. ABBOTT,
Iago, Mr. YOUNG,
Roderigo, Mr. FARLEY, Julio, Mr. RYALS,
Antonio, Mr. JEFFERIES, Luca, Mr. NORRIS,
Lorenzo, Mr. Sutton, Cosino, Mr. Heath,
Marco, Mr. COLLET, Paolo, Mr. PARSLOE,
Giovanni, Mr. George,
Servants to Brabantio, Mess. Austin, Grant Louis, &c
Desdemona, Miss FOOTE,
Emilia, Mrs. FAUCIT.

To which will be added, the Opera of the

Marriage of Figaro.

Count Almaviva, Mr. MACREADY,
Fiorello, Mr. DURUSET, Figaro, Mr. LISTON,
Antonio, the Gardener, Mr. FAWCETT,
Bazil, Mr. J. ISAACS, Sebastian, Mr. COMER,
Cherubino, the Page, Miss HALLANDE,
Countess Almaviva, Miss M. TREE,
Susanna, Miss STEPHENS,
Barbarina, Mrs. LISTON, Marcellina, Mrs Sterling.

To-morrow, Rob Roy Macgregor, for the Benefit of the Philanthropic Institution.